

TOP
DAY

*Exodus 17:3-7 Water will flow
Romans 5:1-2,5-8 State of grace
John 4:5-42 Living water*

Psalm Response
If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ.
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Praise and honour to you ...



Third Sunday of Lent

Year A

19th March 2017

Jesus bypasses Jewish customs in asking the Samaritan woman for a drink.

The ensuing conversation prompts the woman to run and tell everybody in the town about Jesus.

Her openness and willingness to listen with her heart gives her an inkling that this man could be the Messiah.

An unexpected encounter can also transform our lives if we always seek Jesus and the living water he offers us.

Next Week *Light of the world*
1Sam 16:1, 6-7,10-13; Psalm 22
Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Please pray for the sick and their carers:
Barry Bowden;
Madge Boylan;
Margaret Clancy;
John & Marion Crowley;
Paul Kalmar;
Norma Longmuir;
Kevin Madden;
Philia Portelli and
Amber Simmonds.

In memoriam
Tom Boylan ~ 19 March
Andrew Greve ~ 20 March

Servers

19 Mar Pat Wicks
26 Mar Ray Wood

Readers

19 Mar 1st Reading Elaine Jackson
2nd Reading Basil Jackson
Intercessions Robert Forbes
26 Mar 1st Reading Claire Maguire
2nd Reading Christa Buckley
Intercessions Dominic Burke Family

Communion

19 Mar Jan Roberts and Michelle Davis
26 Mar Ray Wood and Diane Stewart

Counters

19 Mar Robyn and Adrian
26 Mar Barbara and Bill

Morning Tea

19 Mar Jan Roberts
26 Mar Pamela Scott/Elizabeth Doolan

Church Care

31 Mar Angie and Michelle Leman

St Paul's Mt Victoria and St Joseph's Megalong Valley

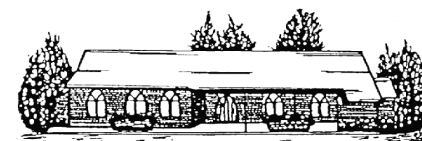
Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

Feast Days of the Week (Sunday 19th—Saturday 25th March)

20th St Joseph, Husband of Mary, Solemnity
(transferred from 19th March due to 3rd Sun Lent)
21st St Birillus, Bishop ordained by St Peter, Apostle (d90)
22nd St Lea of Rome, Widow (d384)
23rd St Richard of Chichester, Bishop (1197-1253)
24th Archbishop Oscar Romero, Martyr (1917-1980)
25th Annunciation of the Lord, Solemnity

Sacred Heart Parish



Sacred Heart Church ~ Blackheath
Saint Paul's Church ~ Mount Victoria
Saint Joseph's Church ~ Megalong Valley

We respectfully acknowledge the Darug and Gundungurra people, the traditional custodians of the land of the Blue Mountains.

As a community bonded together through faith, we are called to share our experience of God with those we meet each day, in particular, those in our local community.

Parish Priest: Father Bob Sheridan
Parish House: 02 4787 8811
Parish Mobile: 04 1735 5479
(Emergency only)
Parish Office: 02 4787 8540
Facsimile: 02 4787 6143

Office hours: Wed 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm
Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm
For Baptisms, Marriages, & sick calls contact Parish House.
e-mail: shbheath2@bigpond.com

Parish House: 18 Inconstant St, Blackheath.
Sacred Heart Church: 167 Wentworth St, Blackheath.

Website: <http://www.keepersoftheflame.net/SacredHeartParish/index.html>

Blackheath - Mass	Sunday	9.30am
Evening Mass	Tuesday	6.30pm
Morning Mass	Wednesday, Friday and Saturday	9.00am
	Thursday	8.00am
Benediction	2nd Saturday after 9.00am Mass	
Exposition	All other Saturdays after 9.00am Mass	
Reconciliation	Saturdays	9.30am
Healing Mass	1st Saturday of the month	9.00am
Mount Victoria - Vigil Mass	1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays	6.00pm
Megalong Valley - Vigil Mass	2nd and 4th Saturdays	6.00pm

Parish Pastoral Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month. If you would like an issue discussed, please submit it in writing to Fr Bob or David Buckley (Chair); Adrienne Kitching (Deputy Chair) or Karen Hayward (Secretary).

Sacred Heart Care Group: Monica Bright 4757 3943

BULLETIN ITEMS: Please contact the Parish Office on Wednesday or Thursday during office hours on 4787 8540 or email shbheath2@bigpond.com

TWO MAJOR FEAST DAYS: As we enter this third week of Lent, we celebrate important feast days for two out of the three members of the Holy Family. First is the Solemnity Feast of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and head of the Holy Family. His feast day for this year only has been transferred from its traditional date of 19 March to tomorrow (Monday, 20 March) because the Third Sunday of Lent (today) takes precedence over St Joseph's Feast. Second is Mary, the Mother of Jesus, on this the great Solemnity Feast of her Annunciation which we celebrate next Saturday, 25 March. This feast occurs exactly nine months before Christmas, Jesus' Birthday, that unique day in the history of humankind when the Son of God became man. However, this is Mary's Feast as well, for without her simple assent to God's loving plan, Jesus could not have been born among us as he was, and Christianity would, therefore, never have existed.

BLUE MOUNTAINS DEANERY MEETING: Held earlier today (Wednesday), this meeting was convened in Wentworth Falls. All priests save Fr Paul Slyney were present. The gathering received the surprising news that Fr Ted Tyler, Parish Priest of the Saint Mary MacKillop Upper Blue Mountains Parish headquartered in Katoomba, has resigned from that position. Until a replacement is found, Fr Ted will continue in the capacity of Administrator of that parish. Fr Ted also advises that, once relieved of his present commitments, he intends to retire permanently in the Upper Blue Mountains. We all wish him well in this major lifestyle change; may he enjoy a full, healthy, holy and happy life in retirement in this, God's magnificent Upper Blue Mountains garden. We who hail from Blackheath's Sacred Heart Parish particularly thank Fr Ted for his work in bringing God into the lives of so many Upper Blue Mountains people - Catholics and non-Catholics alike - these past years. Bon Voyage, Fr Ted.

FINANCES: Thanks to all parishioners and the wider community, we made another welcome trading profit in February (details yet to be presented to the Finance Committee). This was undoubtedly due to the resounding success of our most successful ever garage sale. Financial year-to-date, we are thankfully also profitable. Congratulations everyone for your wonderful contribution to this result!

GOOD FRIDAY CONTRIBUTIONS: Every year, on Good Friday, a special collection is made in every Australian parish within every Australian Diocese. Last year, 2016, in order of most funds raised, Melbourne Archdiocese ranked first, then came Sydney, third in the nation was Parramatta, followed by Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide, Broken Bay et cetera, down to number 28. That is a true reflection of how we are as 'givers' to the world's needy people. Australia-wide, a total of \$1,384,661.06 was raised of which our Parramatta share was \$126,433.30. A truly great 'Peter's Pence' effort!

DID YOU KNOW? On 9 February 2016, Vincent Nichols, the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster in the UK, celebrated Vespers in the Chapel Royal, the first Catholic service held at the palace for 450 years!

God Bless! Father Bob

In case you missed it — Bishop Vincent's Lenten message is available online at <http://catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-longs-lenten-message-2017/>

Taize Services Leura Uniting Church: Resuming **Today 19th March at 5pm** and then every third Sunday of the month - apart from Easter Sunday. The next service after Easter will be on Sunday 14th May. All are welcome at this special meditative time of gathering together for singing, prayer and silence.

For further information, Please visit the website: leura.unitingchurch.org.au or email carolyn.craigmilisen@gmail.com



Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation offers Uncle Richard and other former Stolen Generations survivors the chance to heal after a



childhood of suffering, and manage the intergenerational effects of their pain. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help members of the Stolen Generations support each other on the journey to wellbeing.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

An Ecumenical Milestone

The First Anglican Evensong was prayed in St Peter's Basilica on the 4th anniversary of the election of Pope Francis. *"This celebration marks another important step in the deepening of relationships between Anglicans and Catholics. It comes just two weeks after Pope Francis' visit to the Anglican parish church of All Saints and just five months after the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury celebrated Vespers together at the Rome Basilica of St Gregory on the Caelian Hill."*

The celebration ended with a procession to the tomb of St Gregory to pray for the whole Christian church and for the spirit of wisdom on its leaders – a fitting way of marking the fourth anniversary of Pope Francis' election to the Chair of St Peter. It was, according to **Bishop David Hamid** of the Anglican diocese in Europe, a very moving and significant ecumenical moment: *"This is building on what popes and archbishops have been saying for some time...the daily prayer of the Church is something which unites us, it goes back to our common Benedictine roots and we in the English Church owe much to the Benedictine mission sent by Pope Gregory...we are very grateful for the closeness which is becoming evident in our two traditions which is enabling this kind of common prayer."*

<http://en.radiovaticana.va>

As part of our Lenten journey towards Easter, there is anticipation and preparation for the liturgies that begin on Palm Sunday and travel us through Holy Week to the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. An invitation is extended to all parishioners (and visitors) to take part in the Easter Liturgies. Please add your name to the lists that will be displayed on the Church notice-board over the coming weeks. *(Frances Huckstepp)*

Happy Birthday
Norma Carlon for 20th March
Oliver Burke ~ 12 on 23rd March

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Calling all our cooks, gardeners and crafty people - our annual cake, craft and plant stall will again be held on Easter Sunday before and after mass. All donations are welcome to support our fundraising efforts for the Parish. Please note your diary.

Also coming to the Parish Hall on **Saturday 10th June** is our **POP UP SHOP and TEAROOMS**. Beautiful pre-loved and new fashions for sale. And join us for a High Tea at Miss Pretty's Tearoom.

FOR ALL THINGS NAUGHTY BUT NICE!

